

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Claim 7 was objected to. Claims 1, 6-7, 10-12, 21, 26-28, 30-33, 35, 37, 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. Claims 1, 6-7, 11-12, 21, 26 and 35 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Smith. Claims 1, 6-7, 11-12, 21 and 26 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Yang. Claims 1, 7, 10, 13, 16, 18, 21, 26-28, 30, 33, 42-44 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Gustafson. Claim 37 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith and further in view of Abert. Claims 14-15 and 31-32 were indicated to be allowed if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC §112, first and second paragraphs.

In response to the informalities noted by the Examiner, claim 1, 6, 7, 10-12, 14, 18, 27, 30, 31, 33, 37, 42, 43 and 44 have been cancelled and claims 13, 15, 21, 28 and 32 have been amended with the allowable subject matter of claim 14 being incorporated into claim 13 and the allowable subject matter of claims 27 and 31 being incorporated into claim 21. Accordingly, in view of the indication of the allowability of claims 14-15 and 31-32, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application,

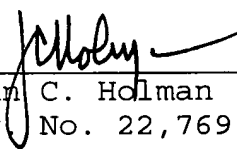
as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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